

Podgorny dies at 79

MOSCOW (R) — Former Soviet head of state Nikolai Podgorny has died at the age of 79, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet said. An official at the presidium, answering a telephone inquiry, said Mr. Podgorny's death would be officially announced in the government newspaper Izvestia Wednesday. Mr. Podgorny was head of state from 1965 to 1977. He lost his job as head of state suddenly in 1977, apparently after a confrontation with Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev, who wanted the post himself. Mr. Podgorny, generally regarded as one of the more influential members of the party politburo, was expelled unceremoniously from the ruling body on May 24, 1977.

Podgorny obituary, page 8

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation

جورдан تايمز يومي سياسى مستقل ناشرة المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الرأي"

Volume 8 Number 2161

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY JANUARY 13-14, 1983 — RABIA THANI 29-30, 1403

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

British officials optimistic about Arab team's visit

LONDON (R) — British officials expressed optimism Wednesday that a much-delayed visit by an Arab League delegation to discuss Middle East peace proposals would take place soon. The delegation's visit to London has been called off three times. The main problem has been British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's refusal to receive any Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official. This refusal sparked off a row between Britain and the Arab World and Foreign Secretary Francis Pym was forced to call off a trip to Saudi Arabia and two other Gulf states. The Foreign Office sounded a distinctly optimistic note Wednesday about the prospects of arranging the delegation's visit but declined to confirm statements by Moroccan officials that the mission would visit London on Feb. 7.

Coal discovered in Saudi Arabia

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, said Wednesday it had discovered coal for the first time. The ministry of petroleum and mineral resources told the Saudi Press Agency that detailed studies were being carried out in an area 15 kilometres by 30 kilometres around Mujammarah in the north. Saudi Arabia has found a wide range of minerals, including gold, copper, silver, iron ore, aluminium and uranium, but at present only crude oil resources are being exploited.

NATO to study Warsaw Pact proposals

BRUSSELS (R) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) said Wednesday it would carefully study the arms control and peace proposals made at a summit meeting of the Communist Warsaw Pact in Prague last week. In a guarded first official reaction as a group, the allies recalled that they had also introduced a full range of initiatives of their own in the various international negotiations on arms control and cooperation.

Thatcher ends Falklands visit

POR STANLEY (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Wednesday ended an emotional five-day tour of the Falklands, hailed by the inhabitants as the liberator of their islands. Mrs. Thatcher, who led Britain to war with Argentina over the disputed islands last year, arrived on Saturday on a visit which boosted the morale of the 4,000-man British garrison and the 1,800 local inhabitants. She left in an air force Hercules escorted by Phantom fighter bombers for the grueling 23-hour flight to Britain. The "iron lady," who rarely displays her emotions, blinked back tears when she became the first person to receive the freedom of the Falkland Islands at a reception on Monday. On Tuesday she wept openly as the crew of the warship Antic presented her with a replica of their ship, hit by a bomb during the conflict.

Iraqis shoot down Iranian jet fighter

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Wednesday night its air defence units shot down an Iranian jet fighter and an unmanned reconnaissance plane Wednesday. A high command military communiqué said the two planes were shot down over the Shab area in the southern sector of the Gulf war front. "Our advanced units and observation posts saw the two planes exploding in the air," it said. Iranian artillery shelled the southern Iraqi city of Basra Wednesday and two border towns causing damage to several civilian installations, it added. The communiqué gave no Iranian casualties but said Iraqi forces destroyed one 155mm artillery gun and one vehicle in the central sector during the past 24 hours.

Reagan's plan to delay Begin trip angers Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel reacted angrily Wednesday to suggestions that the United States might postpone a visit by Prime Minister Menachem Begin if Israeli-Lebanese talks fail to make headway.

Mr. Begin's press spokesman, Uri Porat, described the reports, in the Israeli press, as outrageous and infantile gossip.

U.S. special envoy Philip Habib, sent back to the Middle East to break the deadlock in Israeli-Lebanese negotiations, meets Mr. Begin Thursday.

Citing Washington sources, newspapers and state radio said he was carrying a note from President Reagan urging a supreme effort to get the talks moving and hinting that Mr. Begin's Washington trip next month would be postponed if there was no breakthrough.

The U.S. embassy said it could not confirm the reports.

While Mr. Habib consulted here with American experts, Israeli ministers discussed the latest U.S. compromise for an

agenda for the negotiations on withdrawing Israeli troops from Lebanon.

Informed sources said the ministerial committee, headed by Mr. Begin, decided to seek certain changes to the U.S. proposal when the talks resume in the Israeli frontier town of Kiryat Shmona Thursday.

According to reports from Beirut, Lebanon has agreed, with one reservation, to a proposal for a composite agenda put by Morris Draper, head of a U.S. team which is also taking part in the talks.

Five rounds of negotiations have so far failed to reach agreement on an agenda.

Israel, determined to extract political gains from last year's invasion of Lebanon, is insisting

Wazzan meets Tripoli factional leaders

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan Wednesday met government officials and factional leaders in the northern city of Tripoli, where a ceasefire four days ago ended a month of battles between rival armed groups.

Security sources said it had been decided to send 50 more police to Tripoli where the fragile ceasefire has been threatened by a shortage of police to enforce it. There was no immediate word on when the

extra police would arrive.

The police have an effective force of 200 men in Tripoli according to well-placed local sources and security in the slum areas which saw the worst fighting is now in practice in the hands of heavily-armed Palestinian commandos.

About 250 people are believed to have been killed and 1,000 wounded in the month of fighting between pro-Syrian militiamen and anti-Syrian groups including leftists and Muslim fundamentalists.

Reagan announces resignation of U.S. health secretary

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan Wednesday announced the resignation of Health and Human Services Secretary Richard Schweiker and named former Congresswoman Margaret Heckler as his successor.

If Mrs. Heckler's nomination is approved by the Senate, she will become the second woman Reagan has appointed to head a cabinet department.

Mr. Schweiker, who is leaving to take up a post in private business, is the second cabinet officer to step down in the past two weeks.

Late last month, former Transportation Secretary Drew Lewis announced his resignation, effective on Feb. 1, and the president then nominated Elizabeth Dole, wife of Kansas Republican Senator Robert Dole, to replace him.

Mrs. Heckler is the fourth woman to be picked by President Reagan for a high-level job.

He chose Jeane Kirkpatrick as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and Sandra Day O'Connor

as a supreme court justice.

President Reagan said in his announcement Wednesday that Mrs. Heckler has proved herself a practical and compassionate public servant.

He praised Mr. Schweiker's service, saying: "Many of our efforts to control the spiraling cost of government have depended on his enterprise."

As Health and Human Services Secretary, Mr. Schweiker headed a department of more than 160,000 employees responsible for some of the government's biggest programmes such as social security.

Mrs. Heckler had served in the House of Representatives since 1966, as a Massachusetts Republican but was defeated in the November elections by another incumbent. Democratic representative Barney Frank.

Mr. Schweiker resigned to become President of the American Council of Life Insurance, a lobby group for the Life Insurance Industry.

Portuguese elected alliance split over basic issues

LISBON (R) — The right-wing alliance due to form Portugal's next government found itself deeply split Wednesday on basic issues of social and economic policy, official sources said.

The sources said the policy splits could make it even harder for the three alliance parties to work out a programme than it was for them to agree on the composition of a new coalition cabinet.

On Tuesday the parties, which also made up the outgoing government of Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsemao, were reported to have agreed on who would fill the main posts in an administration to be led by former Education Minister Vitor Pereira Crespo.

The agreement was reached after more than three weeks of heated debate.

The new cabinet needs the approval of President Antonio Ramalho Eanes before it can take over.

Mr. Balsemao resigned on Dec. 19 over feuding in the three-year-old alliance.

The official sources said one of the alliance groups, the Christian Democrats, had advocated tough law-and-order policies whereas a second party, the Social Democrats, wanted concessions to the trade unions.

Mr. Balsemao and his political protege, Professor Pereira Crespo, both belong to the Social Democrats, the largest party in the alliance, but the more conservative Christian Democrats are highly influential.

In a recent party political broadcast, Mr. Balsemao raised the possibility of appointing worker-directors to the boards of public sector companies.

The sources said the Social Democrats believed it was only through concessions to labour that it would be possible to cope with rising unemployment and other social problems associated with slower economic growth.

They said the Christian Democrats view this approach with suspicion and believe the government must react in a tough manner to any social unrest the economic recession might provoke.

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has said Moscow would be ready to discuss scrapping some of its SS-20 medium-range missiles as part of an East-West arms reduction settlement. West German sources said Wednesday.

They said the offer was made during more than two hours of talks Tuesday between the Communist Party chief and Hans-Jochen Vogel, Social Democrat (SPD) candidate for the chancellorship in West Germany's March election.

Mr. Vogel indirectly confirmed the news at a press conference Wednesday at the close of his three-day visit to Moscow. But he

said he could make no detailed comment on the issue until he had informed the Bonn government.

Mr. Andropov announced on Dec. 21 that Moscow was ready to reduce the number of SS-20s deployed in Europe to the level of the combined missile forces of France and Britain—162.

Western leaders said a major flaw in the offer was that it remained unclear what would happen to the weapons, and said the NATO alliance would insist they were scrapped and not simply withdrawn to Asia or put in storage.

On Tuesday the two chief Soviet arms negotiators, Viktor Karlov and Yuli Kvitsinsky, told a

group of visiting U.S. congressmen the Kremlin would "consider destroying" some of the missiles.

Mr. Vogel said Tuesday he had asked Mr. Andropov what would happen to the weapons and had been given important new details which had encouraged his hopes for a settlement at current U.S.-Soviet missile talks in Geneva.

Asked Wednesday to confirm that what he had heard was similar to the news given to the congressmen, Mr. Vogel said: "I cannot contradict this."

The sources said Mr. Andropov told the SPD candidate that Moscow would be prepared to discuss dismantling some of the weapons

and storing others.

Moscow has some 333 triple-warhead SS-20s deployed at present, about 220 of them aimed at Europe. Mr. Andropov's proposal means it would therefore have to dispose of about 60.

Western leaders have said the Soviet offer in any case does not go far enough.

Some argue that French and British missiles should not be included in the calculations at the Geneva talks.

Others say that even if they are, Moscow would have a three-fold advantage because the British and French weapons have only one warhead.

Mr. Vogel held talks at the

Arafat, Andropov hold talks

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet Communist Party leader Yuri Andropov held talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in the Kremlin Wednesday, the official TASS news agency reported.

Mr. Arafat, head of a delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), arrived in Moscow Tuesday for what were believed to be talks covering the state of recent negotiations aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East.

Western diplomats said it was likely that Mr. Andropov expressed concern at growing Arab involvement in U.S. efforts to find a Middle East settlement.

Moscow is bitterly opposed to President Reagan's peace plan, which calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

Arab countries, however, have not rejected the U.S. plan and Mr. Arafat has been quoted as saying that he found some positive elements in it, though it failed to mention the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

Jordan invited to non-aligned conference

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Wednesday received an official invitation from India to attend the seventh non-aligned conference scheduled to be held in New Delhi March 7-11.

The invitation from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to His Majesty King Hussein was handed over Wednesday to Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem by the Indian ambassador-designate to Jordan, Mr. Pyare Lal Santoshi.

At their meeting at the Foreign Ministry Mr. Qasem and Mr. Santoshi also discussed bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them.

The venue of the seventh non-aligned conference, originally scheduled to take place in Baghdad last September, was shifted to the Indian capital due to the Iraq-Iran war.

At the forthcoming conference, Mrs. Gandhi will take over the chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement from the current chairman, President Fidel Castro of Cuba.

Hikmat Masri: PLO will have to choose peace team

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It is not important that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian peace negotiating team, if and when formed, should include an official from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as long as the Palestinian side is chosen by the organisation, a leading West Bank leader said here Wednesday.

He pointed out that the peace proposals put forward by U.S. President Reagan on Sept. 1 can serve as a good basis for peace negotiations on the grounds that it calls for a withdrawal of Israeli forces from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and for a freeze on Israeli settlements.

"These objectives of the Reagan initiative cannot be implemented unless all parties concerned announce their approval and enter into negotiations," Mr. Masri said.

As for the "negative aspects" of the Reagan peace plan represented in its ignoring the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the right of the Palestinians to self-determination and statehood, he said that "these important issues can be subjected

to negotiations with the Americans."

The most important issue which should be given a priority in any move for a solution is to stop or at least to freeze the build-up of Israeli settlements and the Reagan plan includes this point," Mr. Masri added.

Referring to his recent meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Mr. Masri said that Egypt is ready to exert all its efforts to serve the Palestinian cause.

"The Egyptians are even willing to participate in any future peace negotiations based on all proposed peace initiatives," he said.

Mr. Masri, who plans to leave for the West Bank Thursday, said that the Israeli arrest of 10 students at Al Najah University Monday is "a convincing example of the oppression under which Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have been living for the last 15 years."

"The board of trustees of Al Najah University will do its best, under the circumstances, to work on the release of the detained students," Mr. Masri said.

Israel starts rebuilding Zairean army

were already being trained in Israel.

It said Zaire asked Israel to reorganise fundamentally and rearm its armed forces when a high-level Israeli military delegation led by Gen. Avraham Tamir, one of Mr. Sharon's advisers, visited Kinshasa last year.

The correspondent said part of the arms supplies could come from Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) stocks captured during the Israeli intervention in Lebanon.

The newspaper, in a dispatch from its correspondent in Israel quoting informed Israeli sources, said Zairean military personnel

next week.

Israel played a major part in training the Zairean army; in the 1970s and President Mobutu himself was trained as a paratrooper officer by the Israelis.

France, Belgium, and the United States have military cooperation agreements with Zaire and French paratroopers were dropped on Kolwezi to help recapture the mining city attacked by Angolan rebels in 1975.

At their meeting at the Foreign Ministry Mr. Qasem and Mr. Santoshi also discussed bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them.

The venue of the seventh non-aligned conference, originally scheduled to take place in Baghdad last September, was shifted to the Indian capital due to the Iraq-Iran war.

At the forthcoming conference, Mrs. Gandhi will take over the chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement from the current chairman, President Fidel Castro of Cuba.

Afghan guerrillas kidnap 15 Soviet advisers

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — An Afghan resistance spokesman confirmed Wednesday that 15 Soviet advisers were kidnapped by guerrillas from a town in northern Afghanistan.

It is true this has happened," resistance alliance spokesman Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani told Reuters after a meeting of its "Majlis-i-Shoora" (consultative assembly).

He put the number of kidnapping Russians at 15. Information received by the alliance did not say when the kidnapping occurred but it could have been two weeks ago,

HOME NEWS

'Arab-Americans better organised now,' Fulbright scholar says

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "The disorganisation among Arab-Americans which existed before World War II is slowly being rooted out and the U.S. scene is being gradually influenced by their presence," a leading Arab-American said here Wednesday.

Dr. Victor Ayoub, delivering a lecture on "Arab-Americans and the U.S. Ethnic Experience" at the American Centre, said that because American Jews are "much better organised and militant to recognise their identity more than Arab-Americans they could make an impact much earlier on the American public scene."

He added that the "successful Jewish campaign has been derived from the ethnic experiences the Jews faced in the U.S. before and

Time is the second factor, he said. "Based on the number of generations, and the persistent presence of Jews in the American scene which was more deeply felt than those of Arab immigrants."

The social and cultural characteristics of both minorities also differed, he said.

He went on to clarify that most of the Arab immigrants were of peasant origins, "from a culture that is significantly different from the Arab culture and this did not enable them to recognise their identity." On the other hand, the origin of most of the Jews, he said, is European, "which is an important factor that determines the notably different experience."

Dr. Ayoub pointed out that if Arabs suffered from antagonism in America before World War II, it was a discrimination as a foreigner.

He said that they can be identified primarily by numbers. The number of Jewish immigrants to the U.S. before the war was much more than Arabs, Dr. Ayoub said.

"It was a period in which minorities were subjected to a hostile anti-foreigner feeling," he said.

The feeling of anti-Arabism in the U.S. started to develop after the war, he said.

"Arab-Americans became more conscious of their identity through the media, newspapers, films and lectures," Dr. Ayoub said.

"The fact that Arab-Americans were busy assimilating themselves in the American society was one of the major factors contributing to their inability to organise themselves as a strong group before the war," Dr. Ayoub explained.

"But now, they have a wider perspective of the Arab World itself, and hence became more aware of Middle East problems," he said.



Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudin (third from left) and World Food Programme (WFP) Representative Adnan Raouf (to Mr. Dudin's right) Wednesday sign an agreement under which the WFP will provide JD 2.8 million in assistance to Jordan (Petra photo)

Alia College organises exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day exhibition of interior designs was opened at Queen Alia Community College here Wednesday.

On display are samples of architectural plans and interior designs as well as engineering projects and sketches prepared by female students of the college's designing department.



The exhibition of architecture models and interior designs which opened at the Princess Alia Community College Wednesday (Petra photo)

Electrical spare parts imports reduced

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour Wednesday decided to reduce the percentage of import of electrical equipment spare parts by local agents from five per cent to three per cent.

The decision was taken in consideration of the fact that all local agents have sufficient spare parts for the Jordanian market, officials from the ministry said.

They added that this decision will be reviewed in case some of the agents fail to meet market demands.

Wihsdat starts work on new housing units

AMMAN (J.T.) — Residents of Al Wihsdat area Wednesday started building modern housing units on lands provided by the Urban Development Department (UDD). The units, east of Wihsdat refugee camp, will replace the old homes with corrugated iron roofs in which many of Wihsdat residents have been living.

The UDD, a special government agency, was established in July 1980 to construct homes for low-income families who will have houses that meet minimum standards of adequate shelter and comfort built at minimum cost.

The beneficiaries will be eligible for loans for both the land and houses whose designs were provided by UDD architects.

The UDD will also be building new housing units for the people of Wadi Umm Al Rimam, Wadi Al Haddadah, Jabal Jofeh and Jabal Nuzha.

Zarqa dismisses reported cases of diphtheria

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa District is free from diphtheria and all precautionary measures are being taken to combat the disease in case it appears. Health Department Director Abdill Aziz Al Shreideh said Wednesday.

Dr. Shreideh, who was speaking during a tour of health centres in Zarqa, Awajan and Ruseifeh, denied a report in one of the local newspapers that diphtheria cases have appeared in the district lately.

There were four suspected cases of diphtheria in Zarqa hospitals and these were discharged after laboratory and culture tests proved that they were not diphtheria. Dr. Shreideh added.

Qaddouri to attend Kuwait meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Secretary-General Fahkri Qaddouri leaves Amman for Kuwait Friday to take part in a joint meeting of seven Arab League organisations scheduled to open Saturday.

Delegates to the meeting will discuss a number of joint Arab projects including those aimed at achieving food security in the Arab World.

Dr. Qaddouri will also take part in a regional meeting to be held in Riyadh on Jan. 18 to discuss several Arab development projects in which international organisations are participating.

WFP grants JD 2.8m for highland reclamation

AMMAN (J.T.) — The World Food Programme (WFP) will offer Jordan JD 2.8 million (\$10.3 million) in assistance to help the country carry out its third programme for developing highlands, in accordance with an agreement signed in Amman Wednesday.

Agriculture Minister Marwan Dudin and WFP Representative in Jordan Adnan Raouf signed the agreement which will be implemented between 1983 and 1985.

Under the agreement, WFP will supply the new phase of the project with 25,156 tonnes of food commodities for distribution to farmers participating in the project, and to the labourers engaged in afforestation.

The new project is expected to reclaim an area of 7,500 hectares of land for planting olive trees, and an area of about 5,200 hectares for planting forest and fodder trees.

In addition, about 27,000 cubic metres of cisterns, 35,000 metres of water courses and 300 kilometres of farm tracks and paths and feeder roads will be constructed under the project.

A WFP spokesman here said that the project aims principally at controlling reclining waste land in hilly areas which are severely affected by soil erosion and to grow olive and fruit-bearing and forest trees.

The new allocation brings to about JD 1.1 million the total value of WFP assistance to the project since 1965.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Military governor endorses sentences

AMMAN (Petra) — The military governor Wednesday endorsed sentences handed down by the military court, fining 113 Jordanian merchants JD 50 each for violating Ministry of Supply regulations.

Course to open on management planning

AMMAN (Petra) — The Institute of Public Administration (IPA), in cooperation with the Amman Chamber of Industry, will open on Jan. 18 a 15-day training course on modern management. A number of employees from the private sector will attend the course in which several lectures on management planning will be delivered. The training course is designed to orient the participants on modern ways of planning development, projects and following up their implementation.

33 complete university English course

AMMAN (Petra) — Thirty-three participants in an intensive English language course held at the University of Jordan Wednesday received their diplomas after completing a three-month course. The course would enable the participants to appear for an aptitude test, known as the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), qualifying the successful students for admission to American universities. The TOEFL is conducted by the Amideast centre in Amman.

Team to oversee Aqaba reorganisation

AQABA (Petra) — Transport Minister Ali Suheimat Wednesday formed a special committee to supervise the implementation of work on reorganising the city of Aqaba. The committee comprises representatives of the Water Supply Corporation, the Jordan Electricity Authority and the Amman Water and Sewerage Authority as well as members of the Aqaba Urban Planning Committee.

New public building at Al Qasr

KARAK (Petra) — Al Qasr Municipality in Karak Governorate constructed a building complex to house government departments and a civil defence centre at a cost of JD 39,000 in the past year. A municipality spokesman said Wednesday that a tender has been announced for building two wings for 14-classroom annexes for a boys school in the town and for constructing and asphaltating roads, and the purchase of 12 dunums of land for building a public library and public park. The planned civil works are estimated to cost JD 45,460, the spokesman said.

ACC assets reflect increase

AMMAN (Petra) — Assets of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) increased by JD 2,609,000 last September compared to September 1981. The ACC's assets in September 1982 totalled JD 388,402,000 compared to JD 385,793,000 in September 1981.

3 Egyptians die of suffocation

AMMAN (Petra) — Police found Tuesday three Egyptian workers dead in Al Juwaideh area. Public Security Department officials said the workers died of suffocation because they let a gasoline primus burning while they were asleep. The officials appealed to the public not to leave gasoline-operated heaters on when they go to bed as this might result in death due to suffocation.

AOSM official to participate in Riyadh, Nairobi meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — The secretary-general of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM), Zafer Al Sawaf, will participate in an Arab inter-governmental meeting to be held in Riyadh on Jan. 18.

Dr. Sawaf said Wednesday that participants in the meeting will discuss the general trends in Arab development projects financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as well as the important role which standardisation could play in making Arab development projects succeed.

Dr. Sawaf will also participate in the fourth general meeting of the African Meteorology Organisation scheduled to be held in Nairobi on Jan. 24. The meeting is held every three years and aims at developing Afro-Arab relations in the field of standardisation and metrology. Four Arab countries—Egypt, Libya, Tunisia and Sudan—are members of the 21-state African organisation.

Irbid sets up team to enforce strict public safety regulations

IRBID (Petra) — The Irbid Public Safety Committee Wednesday decided to set up a subcommittee to make inspection visits to stores and public places in Irbid to ensure that they abide by sanitary regulations.

The committee, which met under the chairmanship of Irbid Governor Abed Khalaf Daoudieh, also discussed measures to maintain strict control over health affairs and footstuffs and ways of reducing road accidents in Irbid Governorate.

Attending the meeting were Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubaishat and heads of various government departments in Irbid and officials from Yarmouk University.

Jeffry Smith -- globe-trotter on a wheelchair

AMMAN — Trotting the globe on a wheelchair is no doubt difficult, but for Jeffry Smith, a 40-year-old Briton who is paralysed from the waist down, the tour is both interesting and useful.

Mr. Smith, who arrived in Amman Nov. 24, 1982, has already toured 40 countries on his wheelchair driving a Renault 4 fully equipped to make up for his disability.

"Paralysed people should not give up hope of leading a normal life, as is evident from my experience," he told the Jordan Times. Mr. Smith has been on the road for the past 18 years.

The Briton, who has embarked on a task of preparing a book to guide disabled people if they wish to travel, said that "it is very important to know how to cope with the problem of being in a wheelchair and not being able to walk."

He said that he has been travelling around the world to prepare a book to be entitled "The Wheelchair Guide to the World."

The book will include all accessible hotels, museums, touristic



Jeffry Smith with his wheelchair and special Renault (Photo by Youseff Al 'Allan)

IS YOUR ROOF LEAKING? CONTACT US NOW - WE CAN HELP!

STOCKS AVAILABLE NOW! AT
F.A. KETTANEH & CO. LTD.

NAOUR RD : J.T.V. CROSS ROADS
TELEPHONE : 78642

FOR FEB TECHNICAL ADVICE CONTACT:
THE FEB RESIDENT MANAGER : TELEPHONE 666520
TELEX: 23153 FEB JO

MAIN OFFICE - KING HUSSEIN ST.
TELEPHONE : 36144/5, 36246
TELEX : 21234 TANIS JO
21173 TANIS JO

NEW BRANCH NOW OPEN IN AQABA
Telephone: (032) 5215

CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS

Concrete Admixtures
Curing Compounds
Form Oils & Coatings
Expansion Joint Sealants
& Epoxy Repair Compounds
Expansive Grouting Systems

Tile Adhesives & Grouts
Bonding Agents
Decorative Coatings
Roofing Compounds
Bituminous Tanking &
Membrane Systems

K

By Tony Barber
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Demonstrators, with placards and banners denouncing or espousing a range of issues from feminism to nuclear weapons, surprise many tourists who visit the White House and its environs expecting a more stable atmosphere.

Every day, rain or shine, Concepcion Picciotto stands on the pavement outside the White House in a barricade of placards proclaiming "renounce genocide" and "the light has gone out of Christianity."

Further along the street three feminists display a large purple banner demanding an amendment to the U.S. constitution to guarantee equal rights for men and women.

Next to them, an emigre from Eastern Europe clutches a cardboard sign which appeals to Bulgaria's authorities to let her husband and two children join her in the United States.

Another protester issues calls for nuclear disarmament from his perch in a tree in nearby Lafayette Park.

Crank and legitimate protesters alike stack placards against the White House railings and hand leaflets to passers-by. Their right to do so is enshrined in the U.S. constitution.

Some demonstrators are articulate advocates of special causes, while others have more bizarre grievances.

For months Concepcion Picciotto, a stocky woman in her late 30s, wore a large wire basket above her head to deflect "secret rays" which she claimed the government was beaming on her.

She has protested outside the White House every day for 17 months, and it was there that she met Norman Mayer, the anti-

nuclear demonstrator killed by police last month after he threatened to blow up the Washington monument with dynamite.

After his death it was discovered that he had no explosives.

The largest of Miss Picciotto's six brightly coloured placards proclaims: "Norman Mayer: Be like him. Dare to struggle. Dare to win. Renounce genocide."

Another quotes what it calls Norman's ninth law of reality — "we are all at least 99 per cent stupid."

Standing by a small hut storing

hundreds of leaflets denouncing nuclear weapons, Miss Picciotto says she and fellow-protester William Thomas, whom she also met outside the White House, live off unsold food thrown out by Washington delicatessens and restaurants.

"Some people say, 'we're behind you 100 per cent, we like your signs,' but no one comes to join us," she laments.

Miss Picciotto accuses city police of harassing her as she exercises her constitutional rights, but other White House protesters

have few grudges.

Industrial trainer Pat Harley, 40, a campaigner for sexual equality who first demonstrated outside the White House in 1976, says: "The local gendarmerie are really quite pleasant. We have good relations with them."

She says some policemen like to collect badges which the demonstrators wear pinned to their clothing and others will accept cake from protesters staging nocturnal vigils.

Some tourists complain the demonstrators spoil the view of the president's mansion, but Miss

Harley counters: "I think we're part of what makes this country. This country is not about a spick-and-span White House."

Ludmila Gabrovska, a 45-year-old Russian-born emigre who says her Bulgarian husband and teenage children are being prevented from joining her in the United States, tells how some tourists offer to pray for her or write letters to President Reagan.

She says her White House vigil has lasted two months and will continue "for ever more."

According to Art Spitzer of the

American civil liberties union, a major U.S. civil rights group, the White House pavement is as good a place as any for citizens to exercise their constitutional right to petition the government for redress of grievance.

"It serves a very useful purpose to have the tourists surprised. It shows the strength of the first amendment in the United States," he says.

One problem in Washington is that a person protesting peacefully for months before the White House may, like Norman Mayer, suddenly provoke a serious security alert.

A secret service spokesman, asked if the White House demonstrators were kept under surveillance, replied blandly: "We're aware of them."

Demonstrators surprise White House visitors

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

HOTELS

IN SABASTIA RESTAURANT KOREAN JAPANESE CHINESE EUROPEAN FOOD
Tel. 665161-62/63 Ext. 93
One of the best hotels in Amman
THE AMBASSADOR

Amman's most experienced hotel
HOTEL JORDAN INTERCONTINENTAL
Buffet Lunch at CROWN ROTISSE
Sundays & Fridays
For Reservation 41361-5

PHILADELPHIA HOTEL
4 STAR HOTEL
92 ROOMS
DISCO SWIMMING POOL COFFEE SHOP
PARK & PARKING

Holiday Inn
Luncheon Buffet Every Friday Res. 663100
Hotel Jerusalem International Melic
* Luncheon Buffet Every FRIDAY & SUNDAY Tel. 665121-8

RESTAURANTS & BARS

MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT
AMMAN AND AQABA
Offer typical Chinese Mandarin cuisines and take away
For quick lunch: 1 soup 1 main dish,
1 rice 1 tea or soft drink JD 2
Fully airconditioned

Amman
Tel. 661922 P.O. Box 9676
Wadi Saqra Road
Near Holiday Inn Hotel

Restaurant TAIWAN TOURISMO
Opp. Akilah Maternity Hospital, 3rd Circle, Jabal Amman, Tel. 41093.
Try our special "FLAMING POT" fondue or Peking Duck.
on your next visit. Take-Away orders welcome.
Welcome & Thank you.

TRANSPORTATION

To Advertise
in
this section
Call:
667171-2-3

CROWN INTERNATIONAL WORLDWIDE
Specialists in local & international removals
shipping & forwarding (air, land, sea)
storage packing crating clearing door-to-door service
CROWN INTERNATIONAL EST.
Amman - Jabal Hussein - Firas Circle
Tel. 664090 Tlx. 22205 BESMCO JO
Aqaba Tel. 5778

CLEARANCE SHIPPING - TRAVEL & TOURISM AIR FREIGHT - PACKING
AMIN KAWAR & SONS
Travel & Tourism
GENERAL SALES AGENTS FOR SAS SCANDINAVIAN AIRLINES,
THAI AIRWAYS
Tel. 37195, 22324-5-6-7-8-9
Tlx. 21212, 21520, 21634
P.O. Box: 7806, AMMAN

1982 models
WASSIM RENT-A-CAR
short & long term
Cameo Hotel
Tel. 44579-43515

ROMERO

The Italian Restaurant
12:30 — 3:30
6:30 — midnight
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle
Tel: 44227
Closed on Mondays

**To Advertise
in
this section
Call:
667171-2-3**

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best Chinese Restaurant
in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman,
near Ahliyyah Girls School
Open daily
12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 p.m. - Midnight
Tel. 38968
Take Home Service Available

Stop Here Once ... & You'll Come Again
Abu Nawwas Bar
Happy Hour From 7 to 8 p.m.
Drinks half price
Hala Inn Hotel, Jabal Amman
Near Khalidi Hospital
Tel. 43106, 43856

Ld Terrisse
welcomes you daily to a spread of the most delicious oriental and western foods, to the tunes of renowned Polish pianist.
Christmas.
We offer you:
Relaxing atmosphere, charcoal grills, fresh fish, Lebanese mezzeh, in addition to Ld Terrisse's delicious specialities.
for reservations Tel. 662831 Shmeisani

OPTIKOS SHAMI OPTOMETRISTS
Aqaba, Tel. 4446
O.D. اوبيتكوس شامي
اوبيترست ونظارات قانوني
العقبة ٤٤٦

Holiday Inn
Aqaba
for membership
At the Holiday Inn, Aqaba
TENNIS COURT
please contact Tel. 2427 (04) Aqaba

AQABA

AQUAMARINA HOTEL CLUB RED SEA HOLIDAYS

FIVE DAYS SNORKLING INCLUDING EQUIPMENTS AND TRANSPORT TO THE CORALS OF THE RED SEA, HALF BOARD ALL INCLUSIVE

For only JD 51.000

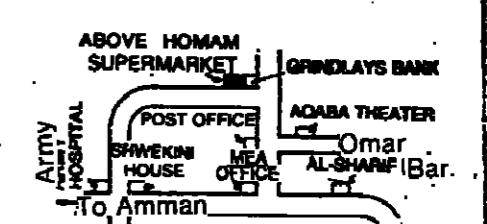
THE ONLY PLACE WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY ALL WATER SPORTS

ACTIVITIES - FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS PLEASE DO CALL US: TELS. 4333/4/5/6

Tlx. 52249 AQUAMA JO

CHINA RESTAURANT

The first and best Chinese restaurant in Aqaba. Take-away service available.
Open daily 11:30 — 3:30
6:30 — 11:00 p.m. Tel. 4415





Heaven can wait

PALESTINE Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's current visit to Moscow comes at a crucial stage of Middle East history, and his talks with the new Soviet leadership are expected to be very important and lively. The focus will doubtless be the American role in the present search for an Arab-Israeli settlement.

The Soviets have unequivocally supported the Arabs' just cause and the Palestinians' legitimate struggle to restore their rights and regain their occupied territories. This our Soviet friends have done on principle but also, and quite understandably, in pursuit of their own interests as a nation and a superpower.

Regardless of the outcome of Mr. Arafat's discussions in Moscow, we believe that Soviet support for the Palestinian cause and friendship with the Arabs will continue to be strong and effective.

It is no secret, however, that Mr. Andropov's administration would be loath to

see an already strong American presence and influence in the Middle East even strengthened by Palestinian acceptance of President Reagan's Sept. 1 proposals for peace in the region. The Kremlin leadership therefore would not hesitate to warn the PLO chairman against American pressure or promises and their fruitlessness.

Mr. Arafat, on the other hand, would do well to listen, and listen he will. But he would do equally well to ask his hosts for the alternative—not necessarily to the Reagan plan but to checking Israel's aggression and expansion before it is too late and too costly.

History shows that the roots of the Palestine problem, and many other world problems, lie with big-power and superpower rivalry. As much as we would like to see full Soviet-American cooperation materialise to tackle the agony of nations, it simply would not do to forget about Palestine and Palestinians until that happens.

JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Steps the U.S. cannot retrace

The Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue and discussions of the outcome of His Majesty King Hussein's recent visit to Washington were aimed at regaining the usurped Arab land and liberating its Arab inhabitants.

With the same objectives in mind, King Hussein intends to tour a number of Arab states with whose leaders he is expected to discuss means of bolstering Arab ranks and thwarting Israeli attempts at exploiting the situation in the troubled region.

In his statements to representatives of Jordanian people on Monday, King Hussein made clear President Reagan's position toward the Middle East issue. He emphasised in his talk with the American administration that the Middle East issue is the first and most important one, preceding in priority even the issue of disarmament.

The United States, he added, recognises the Arab rights in Jerusalem and the other parts of the occupied Arab territories and, in this respect, the

American leaders have expressed their readiness and determination to restore to the Arabs their legitimate rights.

This crystal-clear interpretation of the American position does not allow any room for conflicting U.S. stands in the future because this position has been made public worldwide, and the world at large will bear witness to its truth. It is on this basis that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue has been launched.

It is true that American credibility had suffered in the past due to Israeli policies and Israel might pursue its behaviour in the future to harm it again. But we have to remember now that the Reagan administration has pledged to defend its credibility this time and stand by its principles—something King Hussein revealed to his audience Monday.

Furthermore, we must not halt our endeavours by all means to regain our rights and liberate our lands and people.

Al Dustour: Habib return bears significance

U.S. envoy Philip Habib's return to the Middle East seems to be closely connected with Israel's persistence in securing for itself political but illegal gains from its invasion of Lebanon. Habib's return at this particular time serves as an indicator that the Reagan administration has at last realised Israel's true intentions which are not only harmful to peace in the region and Lebanon's sovereignty but go beyond that to harm American credibility and prestige.

His Majesty King Hussein Monday reaffirmed that President Reagan's plan is not to be taken lightly. Preparation for the plan, coupled with intensive consultations and contacts among American officials, reflect America's genuine intention to shoulder its responsibilities toward establishing a

just Middle East peace. It is because of the big dimension the initiative has assumed that Israel began to act hysterically, not only in rejecting it but also in working hard to impede its implementation.

The biggest obstacle in the path of the Reagan plan is Israel's establishing settlements and in trying to extort a high price from Lebanon.

Habib's return to the region in these circumstances can also be explained as a serious start by Washington to put things in their right perspective. Washington has pledged that it will settle the 'Lebanese question, and if its endeavours prove to be successful, America's role in establishing a just and durable Middle East peace will gather momentum. Perhaps the coming days will reveal the truth about the whole situation.

Soviet Union begins new year with peace offensive

Caution, suspicion and faint hope

By Sidney Weiland
Rewer

LONDON — The Soviet Union began the new year with a widely predicted peace offensive, leaving the West to react with a mixture of caution, suspicion and faint hope. Soviet leader Yuri Andropov signalled interest in a summit meeting, while the Warsaw Pact said it was ready for radical arms cuts and offered the NATO alliance a non-aggression treaty.

The idea was at least 25 years old, but Western leaders responded guardedly, saying it merited study. Privately, NATO officials said they saw it mainly as a propaganda ploy. In the United States, President Reagan said he favoured a summit "in principle," but wanted to be sure it would produce results. The chief American negotiator in U.S.-Soviet strategic arms talks, Edward Rowny, suggested there was a 50-50 chance of an agreement in 1983. Mr. Reagan agreed that Washington was "a little optimistic."

On both sides, statements were carefully measured, avoiding harsh polemics at the start of a year that is likely to be crucial in efforts to achieve a more stable arms balance. The Communist

gestures were viewed in NATO capitals as opening shots in a campaign to persuade Western public opinion to resist the deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe.

This is the Kremlin's main European policy goal for 1983. The first of 572 missiles are due to be sited by December if there is no prior agreement between the U.S. and Moscow. Separate talks on European-based missiles resume in Geneva on January 27, alongside the strategic arms negotiations.

The Soviet campaign has forced Western governments on to the defensive, making them more cautious in their public reactions. Ordinarily, officials said, the Warsaw Pact call this week for a non-aggression treaty would have been rejected out of hand as meaningless without matching arms control arrangements. But governments were now anxious to avoid hasty reaction that could be exploited by anti-war campaigners who claim the West has a built-in reluctance to take Moscow's ideas seriously.

Officials recognise that NATO's case for new missiles will be credible only if the West can prove the U.S. is serious in trying to negotiate an arms deal with the Soviet Union.

Subtlety

A West German opinion sampling showed 55 per cent of those polled doubted that either of the super powers was serious. NATO policymakers say subtlety is needed in presenting the Western case and a readiness to respond seriously if the Kremlin offers proposals that seem outwardly attractive. "We are left with no choice except to say that anything coming from the other side deserves study," a senior official at NATO headquarters in Brussels said.

The caution followed West European criticism last month when the U.S., Britain and France rejected new proposals by Mr. Andropov before they had time to study all the details. The Soviet leader's offer to reduce medium-range missiles in Europe by two-thirds, to match nuclear weapons held by Britain and France, was a superficially logical idea that required a sophisticated answer, many officials said.

The West argues that the Andropov plan would bar all new U.S. medium-range missiles from Europe, while allowing the Soviet Union to keep up to 162 SS-20s targeted on West European cities, with about 100 more in reserve in the eastern U.S.S.R.

"Our problem is to get this across. That's why we are being a little careful in how we react," a British diplomat said. When Warsaw Pact leaders, at a summit in Prague, offered both sizeable arms reductions and a no-war pact, they noted that "millions of people on all continents" were demonstrating against war, and warned pointedly that time may be running out.

Western leaders expect that the

Communist campaign to reach beyond governments in an attempt to sway public opinion will intensify as the time draws nearer for U.S. missile deployments. In new year statements, both sides adopted a low-key approach, designed largely to appeal to the grass roots.

Warm message

Mr. Andropov sent a warm new year's message to the American people, saying an arms compromise was possible. "We stand for improving Soviet-American relations... and we welcome everything that leads to this objective," the new Kremlin leader said. U.S. officials were careful not to rule out a Reagan-Andropov meeting, even though they said it depended on Soviet behaviour worldwide, and should offer hope for specific accords.

West Germany

facing elections on March 6 in which the projected American missiles seem certain to be a major issue, put the warmest gloss on Moscow's overtures to the West. Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said the Warsaw Pact had edged closer to some of NATO's own ideas on disarmament and that "East-West dialogue is in full swing."

He also said the West should be

ready to accept second-best cuts in nuclear weapons if no agreement can be reached on a U.S. proposal to outlaw all European-based medium-range missiles. It was the first time a top Western leader had said publicly that a halfway compromise was worth considering if Mr. Reagan's "zero option" solution proved unattainable. Mr. Genscher said a Soviet offer to cut out "dozens" of SS-20s showed "undeniable substantial progress." The Soviet Union has now hinted it is ready to dismantle some missiles instead of merely moving them out of range of Western Europe.

U.S. officials fear others may also begin to waver in NATO's hitherto solid support of the zero option, and that Moscow will play on whatever tensions develop, especially in West Germany, where one-third of the new U.S. missiles are due to be based.

Herod

Beneath the giant shadow of Alexander the Great, Canaan was content again, and many Jews were able to return; and when Romans replaced Greeks, Judea and Samaria saw a brief moment of glory under the Roman governor, an Arab who has entered history as "the Tyrant, Herod the Great". Tyrant he may have been, but he was most generous to the Jews and even rebuilt their temple more magnificently than before.

The birth of Christ, however, had traumatic consequences, for the emergence of Christianity, concurrently with endemic strife between Jewish factions, led to civil war, and in the fighting even the Temple was ravaged. The Roman emperor lost patience with his intransigent subjects in Palestine — as Canaan was now known — and the entire Jewish community was summarily exiled once more;

Politics of victory

Until the dawn of this century, the country remained under Arab, and then Turkish, rule, although as the years went by the desire for a national identity showed itself in periodic bouts of insurrection. So that when the First World War brought not only the defeat of the Turks, but the entry into Jerusalem of a Christian conqueror in the shape of the British General Allenby, the Palestinians were overjoyed to receive assurances of full independence when the war was ended. What they did not know, of course, was that as a result of the Balfour Declaration the Zionist organisation had also obtained a promise: that the country would eventually encompass a Jewish national home. The utter incomparability of these two solemn pledges did not concern the allies: the politics of victory being their only motive.

Yet even the creation of the British Mandate in Palestine might not have obstructed independence, in the long term: the British still had interests in Arabia and were not opposed to an autonomous — and friendly — Palestine. But just as the people began to feel the reality of their dream, the Second World War shattered it. Came the Jewish holocaust, world opinion was organised, and the Zionists triumphed. To free their consciences from the guilt of anti-Semitism, the U.S. and Britain cleverly forgot their promises to the caliph, the Palestinians were left to their own devices. However, most of the population gradually became Muslims, and adopted the Arabic language.

The Arab caliph — unlike the

Israelite kings — permitted the practice of all religions, and Jewish and Christian holy places were strictly protected, while Jews and Christians could be — and indeed were — appointed to the highest posts in government. But when the French and English kings, for reasons somewhat less than pious, invaded the Holy Land, they set about the wholesale slaughter of all non-Christians, and bathed the land in blood for two hundred years. When Salah ed-Din finally evicted them from Palestine, the Crusaders fled in such panic that many of their women and children were left behind: so many, in fact, that in the slave market a woman could be bought for a single silver coin. Which explains, perhaps, why so many Palestinians are, even today, fair-skinned and blue-eyed.

For the time being, until the

conscience of the nations can suf-

ciently be stirred into action, the

unique pilgrimage of the ancient

Palestinian nation towards free-

dom and self-government — all

too soon the great empires of it

— is halted once again, this time by the enforced expulsion of most of them and the military occu-

pation and political oppression of the remainder.

It is, however, pertinent to add

this postscript. As the Jewish his-

torian Moshe Menushin, wrote:

"The modern Palestinians are the

direct descendants of the Canaan-

ites, Philistines, Persians, Greeks,

Romans, Arabs, Crusaders and

Turks, and are without question

the aboriginal inhabitants of the

country." That any such ethnic

group should be denied the right

of self-government is demon-

strably unjust; but that a people

whose ancestors first dragged man

from the draughtiness of his

neolithic caves into the warm sun-

shine of agricultural settle-

ment and civilised life, who built the

first houses, invented the linear

alphabet, played host to three

great world religions — the list is

endless — should be precluded

from achieving independence and

statehood after one hundred cen-

turies of continuous habitation of

their homeland, is surely the most

poignant crime against humanity.

By Jawad Ahmad

RED & BLACK

To make the expected become reality

It is very difficult for any writer to escape the reality of politics these days. Political events which we witness in the area nowadays are of historical magnitude and could not easily be chased off the mind.

Those who are busy in dealing and wheeling in the stock market cast a greedy eye on their prospective gains and a watchful eye on the political undercurrents. Consumers may think of postponing some of their pre-planned purchase preferring available cash.

Those with long term

investment ventures search for that happy balance between myopic fears and ambitious interests. Each and every citizen takes tens of economic decisions everyday, and most of these are to some degree affected by the political milieu.

In Jordan, we have grown more mature over-time in the sense that our economic decisions are not immediately coloured by our political expectations.

People also realise that fluctuations means ups and downs, and what we can do to minimise the ills in the "down" stage will elevate the "up" to a higher and more durable swing.

In essence, therefore, our

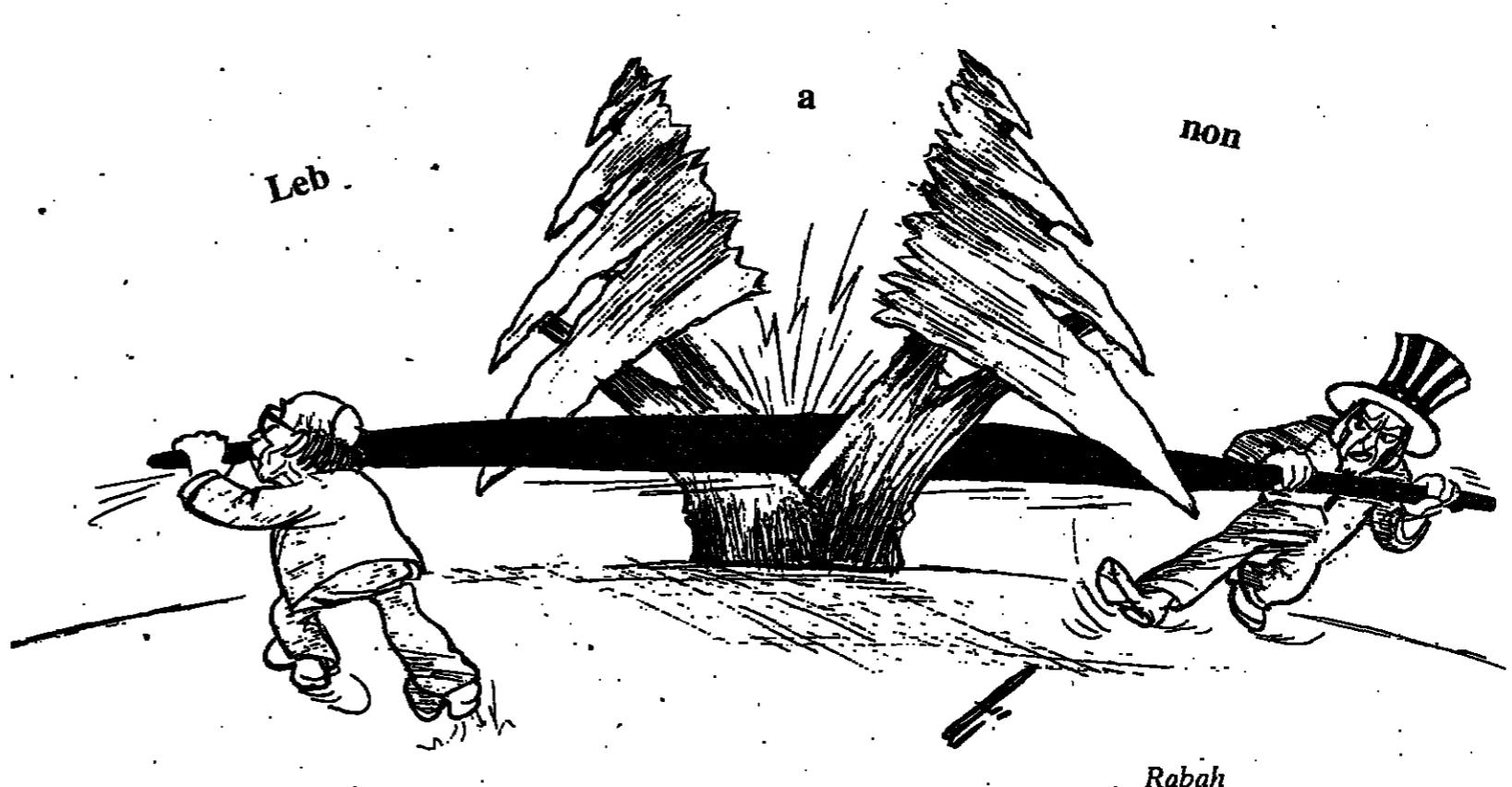
reaction to political expectations does not mature except after a certain lag—a spread of time that could be long enough to enable us to witness changes for the better.

Jordan is now in the centre of events. Since President Reagan's peace initiative, all eyes have turned towards Jordan. The course which Jordan is expected to take is a tightrope. A successful outcome will mean a lot to the prosperity of the region including some benefits to those who should be

involved but are taking the fence.

No doubt, we in the breathtaking period will witness a great deal of political mobility. The outcome of this mobility will to a great deal depend on patience which, in turn, depends on economic steadfastness and internal cohesion. On both counts Jordan stands a very good chance.

If Jordanians enjoy a uniform vision of expectations, then the expected will become a reality.



An ancient nation without nationhood

By Desmond O'Connor

Once upon a time — a long, long time, according to contemporary archaeologists, at least ten thousand years ago — our world's first civilisation was born in the Land of Canaan. At a time when all Britain north of Watford was under ten feet of ice, and the peoples of Europe shivered in their cave dwellings, the inhabitants of an oasis at Jericho, in the Jordan Valley, looked hard at their ever-bubbling spring and decided to use it to irrigate their land. Tired of the endless heat for food, they collected seedheads of the wild emmer wheat and sowed them in the watered fields. In so doing they created what has been described as "man's greatest artefact".

Over the years they became the first farmers, adding barley, vegetables and fruit to their crops, herding the wild goats and gazelles, building houses of mud brick and, finally, encircling their settlement with stone walls and watch-towers. Other communities followed their example and Canaan prospered.

A corridor between Europe and Asia, the hills of Moab to the east and the Mediterranean to the west, the country was always a target for marauding nomadic tribes: the people needed their strong stone walls. While the first Pharaohs built their pyramids, the H

Islamic architecture today: Innovation or intimidation?

By Akram Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

It is hardly surprising that misconception, uncertainty and general confusion blur our impression of what contemporary Islamic architecture should really be. Should our glorious architectural past dominate the shaping of our future environment, or should it

confine itself to history books?

The reason for such ambiguity is that architecture in general is rather hard to define, and its definition is more than often a reflection of one's approach to the subject.

Le Corbusier saw it as "...the masterly, correct and magnificent play of masses brought together in light" — a poetic definition with obvious emphasis on composition

of form. Mies Van der Rohe however, was more pragmatic in saying "...form is not the aim of our work but only the result," and that "...architecture's real field of activity is in the realm of significance." Certainly, two diverse yet valid approaches.

"Islamic architecture" however, is a term that many cautious critics shy away from, mainly due to its historical connotations.

Some refer to it as "architecture for Muslim communities," thus dressing it with a milder social flavour. Others deny that there should even be a unified style, but a regional manner which stems from a need to adapt one's architecture to one's immediate physical environment and climate conditions.

It may be worth realising, at this point, that contemporary architecture in most of the Muslim world rarely conforms to any of the above definitions and conceptions. It is an architecture barely significant and in some

spirit which prevailed throughout the 1940's and 50's. Examples of such buildings may be seen in the older parts of Jabal-Amman, Al-Lweibdeh and -Hussein.

Despite this impingement we have developed certain passive attitudes towards the built environment. One may argue that it would be unfair to expect a great deal of consciousness towards environmental values, for the vast majority of our people are preoccupied with seeking a basic dignified living space which naturally takes precedence over the state of surrounding conditions.

"We seem to have adopted the orientalness of pre-industrial Europe, the crudity of socialist mass housing and the vulgarity of uncultivated eclecticism."

cases highly inappropriate.

This is not solely due to incompetence on the part of the architect, but also due to a definite lack of communication and co-operation across the whole framework of architects, planners and environmentalists in both public and private sectors. Other reasons lie in the ever-increasing demands on the construction industry and the development of world communication and transportation system, making the process of absorbing outside influences into local cultures faster than the process of reconciling different cultures.

To quote His Highness the Aga Khan — "In a desire to respond quickly and effectively to tremendous social demands, our tendency has been to import ideas and technologies without considering their suitability to the needs of our people. We must adopt only that which is valid and reject that which is inappropriate."

Yet unfortunately we seem to have adopted the orientalness of pre-industrial Europe, the crudity of socialist mass housing and the vulgarity of uncultivated eclecticism — not very desirable ingredients for a subject that thrives on the aesthetic.

But just as harmful as the importation of inappropriate ideas and technologies has been the notion of competitive self-expression, for unlike music, painting and sculpture, architecture should never be "...the unmodified rendering of a purely personal signature tune." This is because buildings have a long-term bearing on their environment, be it in harmony or in contrast.

In his book "Master Builder", Peter Blake argues "...a painting can exist in a vacuum — the cre-

ation of a solitary artist, to be seen and felt only by him. Most buildings cannot; they invariably impinge upon some segment of society, however small."

Despite this impingement we have developed certain passive attitudes towards the built environment. One may argue that it would be unfair to expect a great deal of consciousness towards environmental values, for the vast majority of our people are preoccupied with seeking a basic dignified living space which naturally takes precedence over the state of surrounding conditions.

At the opening of the seminar on Architectural transformations in the Islamic world, held in Amman in May 1980, His Majesty King Hussein summed up the situation in the following statement:

"Oil has provided many jobs for our people, whose remittances in the 1970's were heavily invested in the purchase of real estate. We are self-critical enough to realise that in the last two decades, such developments have forced us to witness the harmful impact of unguided construction."

As a result, the architectural language of the more suburban parts of the city is now divided into a variety of unjustifiable modes and meanings. A street often loses its homogeneity due to the co-existence of a diversity of styles which are not only incongruous to one another, but also incorporate elements which are inconsistent with their own individual character.

Yet amidst this present flare of expressionism and symbolism,

Randa Habib's CORNER

Snowed under?

We live in a country equipped for summer. This remark has become a joke often heard in Amman, but unfortunately there is some truth.

If it snows everything stops in Amman. People hibernate, telephones go dead and electric cables are cut.

All over the world blizzards cause damage of varying seriousness, and we are no exception. But let's be honest — it is not normal that everytime it snows we should pray that our electricity isn't cut and that our telephone continues to operate.

Snow falls in Amman every year; it does not come as a surprise factor. Why can't we equip ourselves better to deal with it?

Is there really a good reason why, when it snows, the whole country is paralysed, all the schools are closed and people stay at home?

Suppose that, due to the global climatic changes that are supposed to be taking place, it starts to snow in Amman for three to four weeks. What would we do?

It is high time that we become equipped for winter and that we stop being only a "summer country".

I am reminded of the story of the Jordanian student who went to a university in the Soviet Union. As a snow storm (which is a common event there) had overwhelmed the city, our student like any good Jordanian decides to stay in his room.

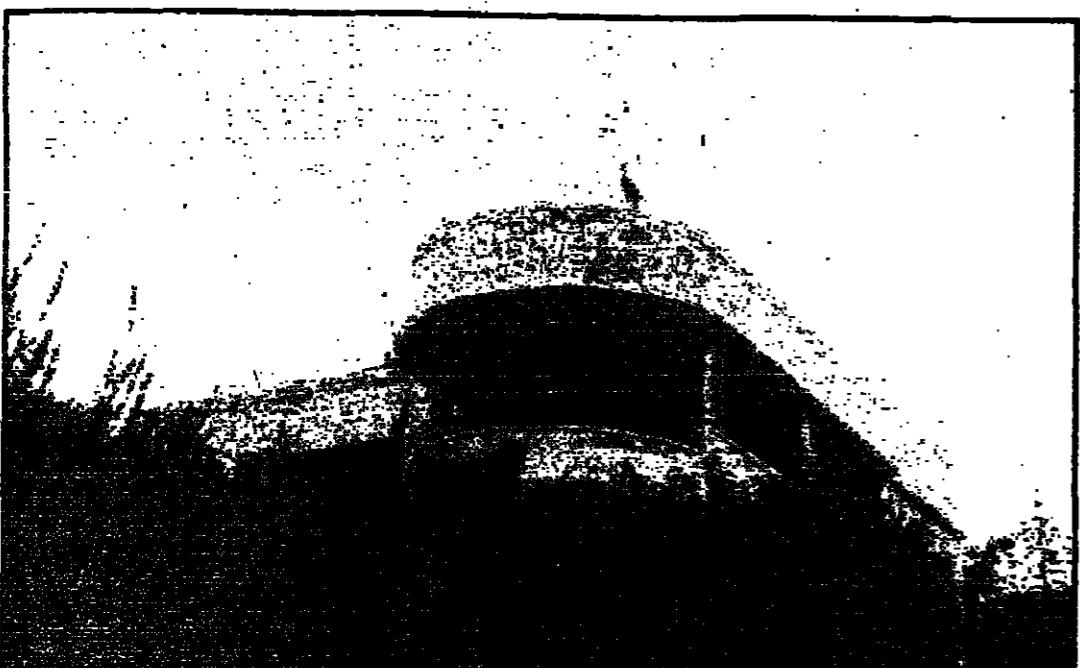
One day passes...two...three... After a week his friends, alarmed, decide to inquire about him and about the reasons for his absence.

And he answers very innocently: "But it is snowing!"

and through the work of a handful of active architects, Amman is witnessing various commendable attempts at establishing a new architectural language. Some of these architects derive their inspiration from 19th century Arab architecture; others start from scratch seeking appropriate new forms.

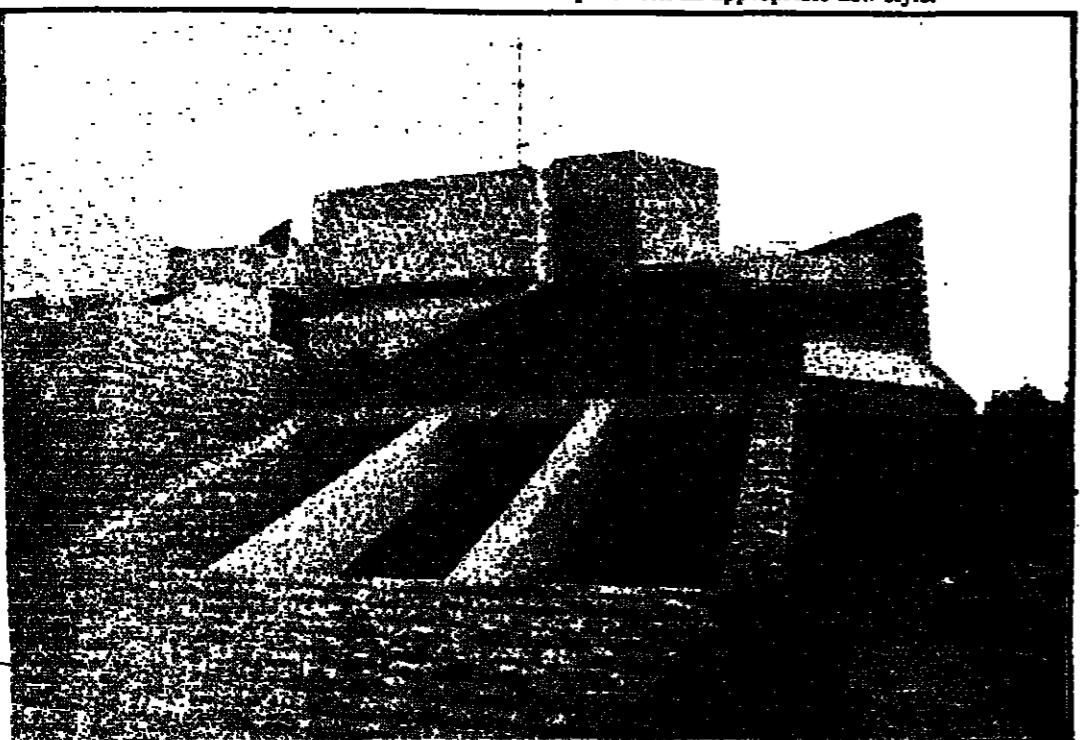
In the meantime, the architectural spirit that was attained in the 1940's and 50's is in a state of unconsciousness and no apparent efforts are being made at resuscitating it.

The author, formerly head of the Royal Scientific Society's architectural section, is a practising architect and a member of the working committee of the Royal Commission on Architectural Heritage.



Above: Mango House on J. Amman: Successful absorption of "international style" into Amman vernacular of the 1950's.

Below: Madi House in Abdoun: commendable attempt to seek an appropriate new style.



New house on Jabal Amman shows indiscriminate use of different and incongruous building styles.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
9:45 ... Koran
14:20 ... Cartoon
15:00 ... The Munch Bunch
15:30 ... Nant Anderson
16:30 ... Big Blue Marble
17:00 ... Local Programme
18:00 ... News in Arabic
18:30 ... Arabic Series
19:30 ... Arabic Play
21:00 ... News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

6:00 ... French Programme
7:00 ... News in French
7:30 ... News in Hebrew
8:30 ... Private Benjamin
9:10 ... Eight is Enough
9:45 ... Movie of the Week: The Christian Licence Suite

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM
& parity on 9500 KHz SW

10 ... Morning Show

10 ... News Summary

10 ... Pop Session

10 ... News Summary

10 ... Pop Session

10 ... News Summary

10 ... News Summary

10 ... News Headlines, Sign Off

IC WORLD SERVICE

6:30, 7:20, 14:15 KHz

Newsdesk 06:30 Classical Record

Financial News 06:45 Reflections

World News: 24 Hours News

07:30 Peebles' Choice 07:45

R-FRIDAY

20:30 ... Arabic Series

21:30 ... Local Variety Programme

22:00 ... Arabic Series

23:00 ... News in Arabic

JORDAN TELEVISION

N CHANNEL

... Koran

Children's Programme

Popeye

Religious Programme

The Muppet Show

The World We Live In

Soccer

Emergency

The Waltons

Science and Life

Western Theatre

Feature Film

Religious Programme

News in Arabic

10:05 ... Newsdesk 10:30 Country Style

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

Landscape Beyond the Periphery, at the American Centre

* Exhibition of Saudi Arabian Archaeology, at the French Cultural Centre. Ends Thursday.

FILM

* The Red Circle, starring Alain Delon, at the French Cultural Centre Friday 7:30 p.m.

MUSEUMS

Foldore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Ierash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Open hours 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al-Qa'a (Citadel Hill), Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Open hours 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabal Amman, tel. 24590. Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabal Luweibdeh, 37440.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox): Abdali, 23541.

Armenian Church (Church of the Resurrection): Jabal Amman, 43453.

Armenian Orthodox Church Abdali, 75261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Abdali, 71751.

Assumption International Church (inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Sumeikat, 663249.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 1:30 p.m.

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings

11:00 ... Listeners' Choice

12:00 ... News Summary

12:45 ... Friday Special

14:00 ... News Summary

14:45 ... John Weekly Concert Hour

16:00 ... Instrumentals, Old Favourites

17:00 ... Pictures, Pop Session

18:00 ... News Summary

18:45 ... Top Twenty

19:00 ... New Deck

20:30 ... 25 Years of Rock

20:30 ... Talking Points

21:00 ... Jazz Hour

22:00 ... News Summary

24:00 ... News Headlines, Sign Off

11:00 ... Arabic Series

12:00 ... Local Variety Programme

13:00 ... Arabic Series

14:00 ... News in Arabic

15:00 ... News in Arabic

16:00 ... News in Arabic

17:00 ... Arabic Series

18:00 ... Arabic Series

19:00 ... Arabic Series

20:00 ... Arabic Series

21:00 ... Arabic Series

22:00 ... Arabic Series

23:00 ... Arabic Series

24:00 ... Arabic Series

25:00 ... Arabic Series

26:00 ... Arabic Series

27:00 ... Arabic Series

</div

SPORTS

SACU confirms West Indians cricket tour

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The South African Cricket Union (SACU) Wednesday confirmed that a team of West Indian players is on its way to South Africa.

SACU President Joe Pamensky issued a statement to the South African Press Association (SAPA) confirming the players were coming to South Africa.

"In the past two days there have

been a number of reports emanating from the West Indies and elsewhere about players on their way to South Africa," Mr. Pamensky said.

"The SACU is naturally delighted that this is the case and therefore confirms that a number of players are indeed on their way here."

"However, it must be pointed

out that, until all the players have reached our country, a tour does not in fact exist."

Mr. Pamensky did not give any details of the players on their way to South Africa but reports from the West Indies and London said the tourists included current West Indian cricketers Desmond Haynes, Colin Croft, Sylvester Clarke and Malcolm Marshall.

He said it was SACU policy not to give any details about the tour until all the players had arrived here.

"The policy of the SACU is not to confirm or deny plans for cricket tours until the players concerned are safely in South Africa," Mr. Pamensky said.

He said the "incredible international response" to overseas reports made it clear that enemies of South African sport wanted to prevent the tour from taking place.

The republic has been banned from international cricket since 1970 because of its apartheid racial segregation policies.

Billy Martin to manage New York Yankees

NEW YORK (R) — Billy Martin, twice hired and twice fired by owner George Steinbrenner of the American Baseball League's New York Yankees, was hired Tuesday to manage the club for the third time.

The 54-year-old Martin

replaces Clyde King, who early

last season replaced Bob Lemon — also twice hired and twice fired by

the Yankees.

Steinbrenner, re-introducing

Martin at a press conference at Yankee stadium, said the combative former Yankee second baseman had been signed to a "multi-year" contract, but declined to give the length of the pact.

Martin was fired by the Oakland A's at the end of last season after managing the club for three years. During his first year at Oakland he led the club, who had finished last in the American League Western Division in 1979, to a second-place finish. He then guided the A's into the American League playoffs in 1981 but the club faltered badly last season.

The volatile and controversial Steinbrenner first hired Martin midway through the 1975 season.

The volatile and controversial Steinbrenner first hired Martin midway through the 1975 season.

The Yankees won the American League Pennant the following two seasons, along with the World Series in 1977. But Martin was fired during the 1978 season after, referring to Steinbrenner and Reggie Jackson, he said: "One's convicted and the other's born liar."

Martin was rehired by Steinbrenner halfway through the 1979 season but was dismissed again after he was alleged to have assaulted a marshmallow salesman outside a bar the following winter.

Before signing with the Yankees in 1975, Martin managed the Minnesota Twins, the Detroit Tigers and the Texas Rangers.

Karak schools conduct cross-country race

KARAK (Petra) — A cross-country race for local preparatory and secondary schools took place in Karak Wednesday. Coming first in the 10-kilometre competition was Al Rabib agricultural school and Al Mansheh school representing the secondary and preparatory schools respectively.

At the end of the competition in which 347 students took part the director of education in Karak Governorate distributed trophies to the competitors and medals to the winners. A total of 40 schools took part in the competition which was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Education.

Harry Wragg retires from horseracing

LONDON (R) — Harry Wragg, who became a legend in horse-racing as both jockey and trainer, is to retire after over 60 years in the sport, his son and assistant trainer, Geoffrey, said Wednesday.

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training in 1947, grooming the winners in six English and seven Irish classics in a 35-year career. His best season was his last when 20 of his horses won 30 races worth over £250,000 (\$390,000).

Wragg, 80, rode from 1921 to 1946, winning 13 English classics including three Epsom Derbys and earning the nickname of the "head waiter" for his skill in

snatching last second victories.

He turned to training

Jeffie Tids

CONOMY

U.S. to fight vigorously unfair trade practices

DALLAS (R) — President Reagan has served notice that his administration plans to fight vigorously what it sees as unfair agricultural trade practices by Japan and the European Community, and he pledged not to give in to protectionism.

In a speech Tuesday to 5,000 farmers, he also announced moves to cut surplus in an effort to help the depressed farm economy.

Mr. Reagan said the United States would provide \$250 million in direct credit to finance as much as \$1 billion in agricultural export sales to developing countries.

This would help counter massive European Community farm subsidies and could lead to their eventual elimination, he said.

The announcement underscored the tough U.S. trade position as talks began in Washington with European Community officials on disputes, threatening to erupt into a trade war.

Mr. Reagan pledged to raise objections to Japan's strict quotas on imported beef and citrus fruit during next week's Washington visit by Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

"We will not give in to protectionist measures, but at the same time, we aren't going to let ourselves be ploughed under," Mr. Reagan declared.

"Our competitors are raiding

Reagan plans to cut defence spending

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan, bowing to strong pressure to reduce America's soaring budget deficit, says he plans to cut pending on defence in 1984 by \$1.3 billion.

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger announced Tuesday that he would recommend this reduction to the White House. Mr. Reagan quickly told reporters he would pass the recommendation to Congress in his budget proposal later this month.

But the president stressed that a reduction in defence spending to about \$239 billion in the 1984 financial year would "not interfere with the production of new weapons systems."

The announcement was made by Mr. Weinberger as White house pressure mounted on him to reduce arms spending in the

the hen house," he said. In another move to reverse the slide in agricultural exports, Mr. Reagan signed into law a so-called "contract sanctity" provision protecting against future trade embargoes. It guarantees shipments for nine months except in a declared national emergency or during war.

Mr. Reagan followed the advice of his farm, trade and political advisers in signing the measure, brushing aside objections by foreign policy aides concerned that it would limit the president's options.

Mr. Robert Delano, president of the largest U.S. farm group, the conservative American Farm Bureau Federation, told reporters the provision would increase agricultural exports and reassure the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe that the United States would be a reliable supplier.

Mr. Reagan also offered farmers a "crop swap" under which they receive government-owned surplus grain in return for leaving up to half of their acreage idle this year.

The programme seeks to solve some of the severe problems facing U.S. farmers as a result of successive bumper harvests, mounting stockpiles, depressed world demand and the lowest profits since 1933.

NEWS IN BRIEF**Mugabe criticises 'tied aid'**

HARARE (OPECNA) — Prime Minister Robert Mugabe spoke Tuesday of an increasing tendency by developed countries to grant aid with political strings attached. Opening a five-day African-American conference, the prime minister said such a practice was aimed at reducing recipients to "neo-colonies and puppets of donor countries."

Japanese farmers protest

TOKYO (R) — Thousands of Japanese farmers marched past the heavily-guarded U.S. embassy protesting Wednesday against Washington's efforts to persuade Japan to import more American agricultural products.

Iran gives Japan final notice

TOKYO (R) — Iran has given Japan until Wednesday to decide whether to resume work on a multi-billion-dollar joint project to build a petrochemical complex in south Iran, abandoned over two years ago due to the Gulf war.

Iraq to strengthen ties with India

NEW DELHI (R) — Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi said here Wednesday that his government wanted to expand ties with India. India had successfully completed a number of construction projects in Iraq and "there are possibilities of enlarging cooperation in this field," he told reporters on arrival here for a meeting of the Indo-Iraq joint commission. Iraq is a traditional supplier of oil to India, which will import 3.5 million tonnes of crude from Baghdad in 1983.

Tunisian-Kuwaiti ties said 'ideal'

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — Tunisian Finance Minister Mansour Moalla Sunday described as "ideal" the co-operation between his country and Kuwait in a number of joint industrial and financial ventures. Mr. Moalla, was here to discuss current projects, including phosphate production and investment in agriculture and real estate, together with the possibility of launching further joint ventures.

U.S. banks cut prime rate

NEW YORK (R) — Several major U.S. banks Tuesday reduced their key prime lending rate by a half percentage point to 11 per cent, the lowest level in more than two years. Morgan Guaranty was the first to fall into line with Chase Manhattan which began the latest round on Dec. 28. Other banks, including Bank of America, the nation's largest, then followed.

Italy gives relief aid to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Italy has given Ethiopia 10,000 tonnes of rice worth \$8 million to help relieve drought-affected areas of the country. The grain is being unloaded at Ethiopia's Red Sea port of Massawa, according to the deputy commissioner for relief, Major Tesfaye Berhanu.

Afghanistan denies reserves crisis

NEW DELHI (R) — Afghanistan, seeking to counter Western reports that it was facing a foreign exchange crisis, has said it has enough foreign currency reserves to cover one year's imports. Western diplomatic sources here said Wednesday. They said Afghanistan's central bank in an official statement had denied there was a foreign exchange problem and that the country had been buying hard currency from what it called "other sources."

British pound regains strength

LONDON (R) — The chairman of Britain's ruling Conservative Party, in a statement intended to halt pressure on sterling, said Wednesday the government had no plans to call an early general election.

Party Chairman Cecil Parkinson, the most authoritative government voice in the absence of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher now on a tour of the Falkland Islands, declared: "The government has no plans for an early election."

Mr. Parkinson, a member of Mrs. Thatcher's cabinet and one of her closest advisers, spoke in a radio interview as the British currency strengthened in early trading against European currencies and the Japanese yen.

At the same time, Midland Bank, one of Britain's four major commercial banks, fell into line with its competitors which Tuesday raised their interest rates to 11 per cent.

Mr. Parkinson said he did not expect the prime minister to return from the Falklands and He acknowledged problems in

declare she was going to hold an election.

Mr. Parkinson said the British economy was strong and there was no need for the government to call an election.

"Look at the position of this country's economy. Look at the fact that our spending plans are now settled for the following year. Our spending is firmly under control, our borrowing is under control, inflation is coming down, wage settlements are being made at a lower level," Mr. Parkinson said.

"We have industrial peace, very few strikes. We have a far better balance of payments on current account than almost any other country. Our economy is basically sound," he continued.

Government were producing the right results, he stressed, adding: "We intend to stick to them."

Britain, as a politically secure country, as a secure place for investors to keep their money, Mr. Parkinson said.

He acknowledged problems in

the level of industrial output but said these were problems Britain shared with many other countries.

Meanwhile, Social Democratic Party politician Mr. William Rodgers blamed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher for causing the latest run on the pound. He accused her of starting her election campaign last weekend with a trip to the Falkland Islands, over which Britain and Argentina fought last year.

Other reasons for sterling's fall appeared to be current uncertainty over oil prices, which affects Britain as a major oil producer, and a belief that such currencies as the mark and the Japanese yen would strengthen.

The fall in sterling, while welcomed by exporters as it makes their goods cheaper overseas, was a major blow to Mrs. Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party. Her government had been looking to lower interest rates to revive the economy and help cut inflation by reducing the cost of borrowing.

Early London dealings Wednesday showed the British unit extending its late recovery Tuesday which followed the one percentage point increases in interest rates of Barclays, National Westminster and Lloyds banks.

Sterling was indicated at an early \$1.5755 in line with the overnight close in New York, before rising to \$1.5835.

But the lower opening figure was nearly one cent below \$1.5850 here Tuesday, largely an expression of the strength of the dollar which had advanced overnight in the United States.

In Frankfurt, dealers said sterling slipped back in moderate early trading Wednesday while the dollar held steady at higher levels.

Sterling eased to 3.711 marks from the opening 3.728 marks. Opening levels were higher than the close in New York Tuesday night, but dealers said sterling soon slipped as operators saw its sharp rise as overdone.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE
from the Carroll Righter Institute**FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 13, 1983**

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A wonderful day to make an advancement in career activities, but be sure not to force your will on others. You can easily extend your ideas beyond present boundaries now.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Extend your interests so you can gain more profits in the future. Be less demanding of family members. Express happiness.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Take the right steps to improve your financial position. A new project needs more study before going ahead with it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Schedule your activities wisely so you get maximum use of your time. Be sure to use extreme caution in motion today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You can now understand how to improve your financial position so don't waste valuable time.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Go after your finest personal aims and you can easily gain them. Sidestep a foe who could spoil your happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Study your ambitions well now and don't confide in others. Show more affection for mate. Many benefits can come now.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Go after personal aims with more enthusiasm and effort and you can easily gain them. Be alert at all times today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) You are now able to get the backing you need from a higher-up. Be sure to keep promises you've made to friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can make a good impression on others by showing you are honest and decent. Relax at home tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be more objective in dealing with others where business matters are concerned or you could jeopardize your security.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sure to keep the promises made to family members. Come to a better accord with associates. Think constructively.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Go after your aims in a positive manner and get excellent results. Contact loyal friends who can be helpful to you.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be capable of comprehending a great deal of knowledge, so give the finest education you can afford and there can be much success. Don't neglect religious tenets that are important to a good way of life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 14, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Don't allow yourself the luxury of criticizing others today or tonight, or you could lose out quickly where it means the most to you. Strive for success and happiness.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be sure to finish regular routines before thinking about recreation. Objectivity helps solve a situation that arises.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) A situation at work could be troublesome, but be objective and you can solve it. Spend your money wisely today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A new project needs more study before going ahead with it. Take no risks with your reputation at this time.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Don't argue with an associate and they all will be fine in the future. Be more reassuring to loved one.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Don't jeopardize your financial standing by investing too heavily. Avoid one of the opposite sex who could give you trouble.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21) Take extra time to solve any problems you may have now and tomorrow you can carry through in a positive fashion.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Avoid taking any forceful action because you are annoyed, but profit through fine opportunities around you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) You may find it difficult to obtain the data you need, but don't let it frustrate you. It will soon be forthcoming.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have fine plans for advancing in career activities, but don't be too hasty in putting them in operation.

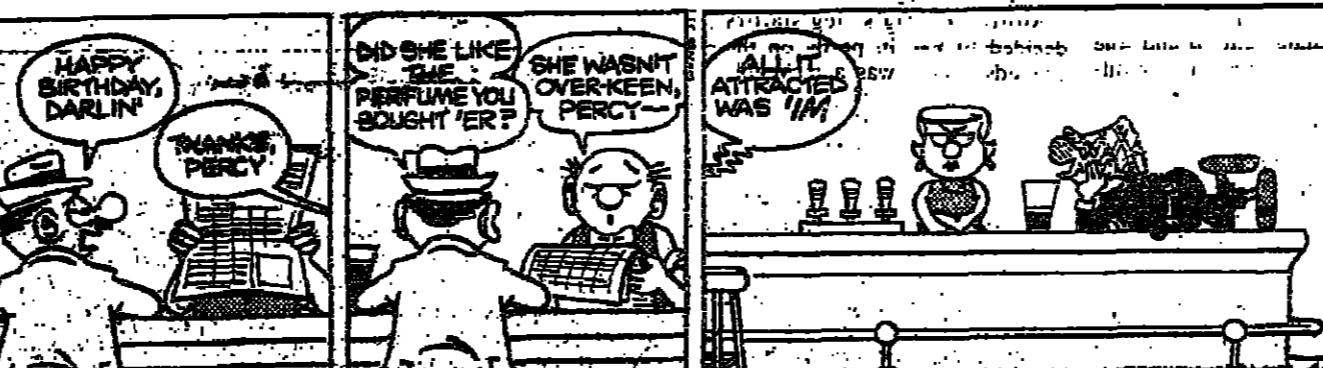
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Try not to irk anyone in high position now, or you could regret it later. The evening can be a most happy one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You may think of seeking greener pastures now, but this could be a mistake. Use extreme caution in motion.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Make long-range plans to have more abundance in the days ahead. You are able to gain a personal aim at this time.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be one who can see through most troublesome situations and know how best to handle them, so direct education along professional lines for best results. Don't neglect religious training early in life.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Peanuts**Mutt 'n' Jeff****Andy Capp****JUMBLE**

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YORAF

LAQUI

PLUXED

TOBENN

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: CROUP ICING NIBBLE TALLOW
Answer: Can help to avoid friction—LUBRICATION

WORLD

Rebel colonel says air force chief backs him

El Salvador crisis deepens

SAN SALVADOR (R) — A group of senior officers planned to try again Wednesday to persuade the commander of El Salvador's northern Cabanas province to end his rebellion against Defence Minister José Guillermo García.

But the mutiny of Col. Sigifredo Ochoa Pérez entered its sixth day with no sign that he was prepared to heed orders to give up his command and take up a post at the El Salvador embassy in Uruguay.

Col. Ochoa told reporters at his headquarters in the provincial capital of Sensuntepeque Tuesday he had agreed to go to San Salvador to meet Gen. García and top officers to discuss his showdown with the defence minister.

But he did not leave his province and National Guard commander Carlos Eugenio Vides told Reuters Tuesday night a meeting with Col. Ochoa was scheduled for Wednesday. He did not specify the venue and gave no details of the participants.

Gen. Vides belongs to a five-man negotiating team set up after Col. Ochoa declared himself in rebellion last week and demanded the defence minister's resignation.

The rebel colonel said he had won the backing of the air force and the first infantry battalion for his revolt against Gen. García.

Podgorny dies after 6 years of seclusion

MOSCOW (R) — After over a decade as Soviet head of state, Nikolai Podgorny, whose death was announced Wednesday, was banished to the political wilderness in 1977, to the complete surprise of Western observers.

Within a day he had joined the ranks of the Soviet Union's "non-people," apparently after a confrontation with then Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev.

In his years as head of state Mr. Podgorny converted the presidency from a purely nominal post to a powerful office and established himself in the Kremlin front room.

The portly, grey-haired Ukrainian travelled the world, frequently conducting full scale negotiations with foreign leaders.

Only two months before his dismissal in June 1977 Mr. Podgorny led a 120-member delegation on a tour of African states. Earlier he undertook a series of delicate missions, including trips to the Middle East. He signed the Soviet Union's ill-fated friendship treaty with Egypt in 1971 and a similar treaty with Somalia three years later, the first between the Kremlin and a non-Arab African state.

It was widely assumed that Mr. Podgorny's downfall followed his refusal to step aside gracefully from the post of head of state — as his own predecessor Anastas Mikoyan had done in 1965 — in order to let Mr. Brezhnev assume the presidency.

However, the clash which brought Mr. Podgorny's expulsion from the politburo, the Kremlin's inner cabinet, and his subsequent dismissal from office was seen by many observers as the climax of a long-standing rivalry with Mr. Brezhnev.

Mr. Podgorny's removal was announced in a short sentence at the end of a report on a meeting of the party's policy-making central committee. No public explanation was given.

It was assumed that Mr. Podgorny, who was married with three children, went into retirement on a generous state pension after his dismissal.

Nikolai Viktorovich Podgorny was born in the Ukrainian village of Karlovka, near Poltava, on Feb. 18, 1903. He went to work in a factory just before his 15th birthday.

As a teenager he took part enthusiastically in the 1917 October revolution, which brought the Communists to power, and by the age of 20 he headed a Communist youth league cell in his native village.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

© 1982 Tribune Company Syndicate, Inc.

Q-1 — Neither vulnerable, as you hold:

♦AK72 ♦6 ♦KQ983 ♦J63

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass

2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A. — With your first two bids, you described a hand that is probably unbalanced. Despite this information, partner has opted to play a no trump contract. Pass. You don't have to tell partner that you have five diamonds — there is no reason to suppose that a diamond contract will be any improvement on one no trump. In addition, a two diamond rebid suggests an even more unbalanced hand, or a better than minimum opening bid.

Q-2 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦KQ854 ♦93 ♦AQJ ♦QJ7

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A. — You have as much as the law will allow for an opening bid that does not quite measure up to one no trump. Now, you should do more than simply rebid spades to show a five-card suit. Two no trump is more descriptive of both your shape and your strength in the minor suits.

Q-3 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦72 ♦8653 ♦K1062 ♦A95

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass

4 ♥ Pass

What do you bid now?

A. — Don't be ashamed of your hand — you have four trumps to a high honor, an ace and a ruffing value. If partner is interested in slam, you should be happy to cooperate. Cue-bid the ace of clubs. Partner might be afraid to move because he

holds two last losers in that suit.

Q-4 — As South, vulnerable, as you hold:

♦AK873 ♦QJ ♦72 ♦AJ74

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass

2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A. — While partner's bidding does not show much in the way of strength, he almost certainly has a six-card heart suit. Viewed in that light, your hand is considerably better than minimum, because your heart honors must be upgraded and you have prime values on the side. A raise to three hearts is the least you can do.

Q-5 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q6 ♦AK105 ♦K1073

♦K102

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♥ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

?

What do you bid now?

A. — There is common misconception that North's competitive one no trump response is a sign of weakness. On the contrary, it is a positive action, showing about 9-10 points minimum. Therefore, with your 15 points, good intermediates and auxiliary spade stopper, you should be close to game.

Advise partner about your ambitions by raising to two no trump.

Q-6 — As South, vulnerable, as you hold:

♦6 ♦5 ♦AK93 ♦AJ8742

What is your opening bid?

A. — Normally, you should bid a six-card suit, before a five-card suit. On this hand, however, a one-diamond opening bid is preferable, so that you can show both suits in an economical manner. With two-suited of moderate strength, the higher suit should be opened first, especially if the suits are touching, even at the cost of concealing the precise distribution.

"I talked to (air force chief) Juan Rafael Bustillo yesterday and he assured me of his full support," Col. Ochoa said. "I also telephoned Adolfo Blandon (of the first battalion) and he took the same position."

The names of the officers commanding the two units were conspicuously absent from a communiqué criticising Col. Ochoa's actions which was signed by 28 commanders and published in Tuesday's newspapers.

Telephone links to Cabanas, which has been sealed off by troops loyal to Col. Ochoa, were out Tuesday and the armed forces announced that El Salvador's news media would be allowed to report only official information on the rebellion.

Col. Ochoa, who views Gen. García's order sending him to Uruguay as an attempt to exile him, accused the government of using dictatorial methods by isolating him in this way.

"They cut our telephone links to the rest of the country and they are denying us access to the media," he said.

The country's top commanders held another emergency meeting Tuesday night. It ended with no announcements and appeared to have made little progress in resolving the crisis.

UNSUCCESSFUL Japanese politician hangs himself

TOKYO (R) — Ichiro Nakagawa, an unsuccessful candidate in last November's election for Japanese prime minister, hanged himself in a hotel room last Sunday, police said Wednesday.

Doctors originally reported that Mr. Nakagawa, 57, had died of a heart attack while visiting Sapporo, the capital of northern Hokkaido Island.

But a police spokesman said Wednesday that the doctors had falsified Mr. Nakagawa's death certificate at the request of his family and political aides.

Mr. Nakagawa, a leader of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and a former agriculture minister,

and science minister, hanged himself with the belt from his bath robe, the spokesman said.

Mr. Nakagawa ran against Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, now making an official visit to South Korea, for the presidency of the LDP which carries with it the premiership by virtue of its majorities in both houses of parliament.

But he was placed last of the four candidates in a party primary election, winning only seven per cent of votes cast. He and two other candidates dropped out of the race to let Mr. Nakasone take the party presidency and premiership.

The Japanese prime minister went to South Korea on his first foreign trip since taking office in November and next week flies to Washington for crucial talks on trade and defence with Mr. Reagan.

Mitterrand's African visit reflects changing policy

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand leaves Paris Thursday for his third visit to Africa within 19 months, a trip which could reflect a more traditional approach to relations between France and its former colonies.

Mr. Mitterrand will visit Togo before travelling on to Benin and Gabon, all three West African states once ruled by Paris.

Official sources said the trip would be an important test following a shift in policy highlighted by the resignation last month of Cooperation Minister Jean-Pierre Cot who supervised France's relations with its former possessions.

Immediately after taking power in 1981, the French Socialist administration said it wanted to adopt a new approach, seeking to promote observation of human rights on the continent while treating African states as equal partners.

French presidential spokesman Michel Vauzelle said he was aware of reports of possible agitation in Lome but declined to comment further.

Even before Mr. Cot's resignation, Mr. Mitterrand had agreed to receive President Ahmed Sékou Touré of Guinea, criticised by the French Socialist Party and others for his human rights record.

The policy change was also indicated by contacts Mr. Mitterrand had with a wide range of leaders at a meeting with African heads of state in Kinshasa, capital of Zaire, last October.

In his drive to promote French influence, Mr. Mitterrand will discover three very different countries.

While Gabon enjoys one of the highest per capita incomes in Africa, Benin — which proclaims itself a Marxist-Leninist state — is among the world's least developed countries.

Togo is a relatively small state but diplomats say it plays an influential role in African politics.

Mr. Mitterrand's talks in the three countries are expected to focus on bilateral trade and Gabon.

Le Matin, a paper close to Mr. Mitterrand's Socialist government, quoted Mr. Eyadema as saying: "We were informed (of the plot) by several friendly foreign powers on Jan. 2 and 3. We were able to localise the commandos: It is in Ghana."

The Paris newspaper said the commando group comprised former members of Britain's elite Special Air Service (SAS) unit and had left London on Dec. 30 for Togo, planning to travel via Benin and Gabon.

Le Matin quoted Mr. Eyadema as saying Togo's intelligence services believed the plot had nothing to do with Mr. Mitterrand's visit.

Security was tight in the Togolese capital Wednesday, with police units at public buildings and on all street junctions in the city centre.

Stern report causes expulsion of reporter from E. Germany

EAST BERLIN (R) — The East Berlin correspondent of the West German weekly magazine Stern, which published a report Tuesday of an assassination attempt on Communist Party leader Erich Honecker, was ordered Wednesday to leave East Germany within 48 hours.

The government news agency ADN said accreditation for Stern's reporter Dieter Bub was being withdrawn "because of his gross breach of the legal stipulations of the German Democratic Republic, untrue and libellous reporting."

Stern said Tuesday that a 41-year-old heating worker had attempted to shoot Mr. Honecker on New Year's Eve as he drove

'Japan will not play military role in Korea'

SEOUL (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Wednesday rejected the idea of his country playing any military role in Korea.

He told a press conference at the end of his two-day visit to South Korea that Japan's constitution renouncing war prevented any military cooperation with other countries except the United States.

Japan and the U.S. have security arrangements for the defence of Japan.

South Korean newspapers earlier reported that Mr. Nakasone and South Korean President Chun Doo-Hwan had agreed to increase security cooperation between South Korea, Japan and the United States.

"No such subject was discussed," Mr. Nakasone told reporters before returning to Tokyo after the first official visit to South Korea by a Japanese prime minister.

In a joint communiqué with President Chun, Mr. Nakasone pledged the maximum possible Japanese cooperation in the Seoul

government's 1982-86 development programme. The communiqué did not give figures but the two countries agreed earlier on Wednesday on Japanese aid totaling \$4 billion.

The aid package was agreed in separate talks between Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and South Korea's Lee Bum-Suk after two years of difficult negotiations between Seoul and Tokyo. The South Koreans had originally asked for \$6 billion.

The aid will be extended over about seven years beginning at an average annual interest rate of about six per cent, the officials said.

Mr. Nakasone later told Japanese reporters President Chun had asked him to urge President Reagan to reject calls for protectionism and maintain the principles of free trade.

The Japanese prime minister went to South Korea on his first foreign trip since taking office in November and next week flies to Washington for crucial talks on trade and defence with Mr. Reagan.

Threat to blow up jets in Australia found to be hoax

BRISBANE (R) — A threat to shoot down an Australian airliner unless \$1 million was paid was a hoax, police said Wednesday.

They said they received a second letter Wednesday from the mysterious group signing itself "Group 5 SST" which made the threat.

The letter said there had never been any intention to harm the public or collect a ransom and the group had taken action solely to draw attention to ineffective flight path security.

Australia's airports have been under tight security since a home-made rocket blew a hole in the fuselage of a Canberra bomber parked at an aircraft museum in the city of Brisbane 10 days ago.

The group's first letter, received last Wednesday, said the rocket

attack was a demonstration of fire power and threatened to shoot down a passenger plane of the domestic trans Australia airline soon after take-off if the ransom was not paid.

Wednesday's letter said the group had destroyed the weapon used to fire the rocket at the Canberra. The rocket contained only a token load for the purpose of demonstration, it said.

It also claimed that flight path security in Australia was ineffective, adding: "If the \$1 million can be raised to pay off a terrorist, surely it would be better spent on flight path security